

## **Historic Trust Gives Grants to 6 Area Projects**

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The state has awarded preservation grants totaling nearly \$165,000 for projects involving six historic sites in Burlington County.

The New Jersey Historic Trust announced its annual grants last week. The trust will distribute \$11 million to 61 historic sites throughout the state.

The recipients of grants for Burlington County projects were:

\* The South Jersey Tourism Corp. of Camden, which received \$50,000 for preparing a preservation plan for the James Still office site on Church Road in Medford. The state owns the building where Still, known as the "Black Doctor of the Pines," practiced in the 1800s.

\* Maple Shade, which received a \$35,813 grant for its Chesterford School, better known as the Little Red School House, on West Main Street.

\* The Mount Holly Monthly Meeting/Society of Friends, which received \$35,287 for the Arney's Mount Meeting House at the intersection of Juliustown and Pemberton-Arney's Mount roads in Springfield.

\* The Burlington County Historical Society, which received a \$24,000 grant for the development of a walking tour featuring places of historic significance in Burlington City.

\* Calvary Presbyterian Church in Riverton, which received a \$14,494 grant.

\* The National Society of the Colonial Dames in New Jersey, which received a \$5,139 grant for its Old School House on Brainerd Street in Mount Holly.

The New Jersey Historic Trust is affiliated with the state Department of Community Affairs.

"The Historic Trust's support for preservation projects around the state is an investment in both our past and our future," said Carolann Clynes, chairwoman of the trust.

Riverton resident Sandy Gunn, a member of the capital improvement committee at Calvary Presbyterian Church, said the grant will cover the cost of an architect the committee hired to develop its preservation plan for the 129-year-old church.

"We need the stained glass restored and the slate roof replaced and drainage around the building improved, but we need to know how to restore it and keep the historical integrity," Gunn said.

Maple Shade will use its grant to fund a preservation plan for the schoolhouse, built in 1811. It was one of the first buildings on Main Street and is one of the few early 19th-century one-room brick schoolhouses still standing in the state, according to the New Jersey Historic Trust.

The grant will also help fund efforts by Maple Shade to place the building on the National Register of Historic Places, Township Manager George Haeuber said. The building is already on the state register.